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IDEA-0051-69

Copy 7 of 7

10 February 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Critique of R&D Activity on Mission 0089A

1. Mission Background: At about 1700 local 7 February, DD/SA received inquiry on OSA capability of obtaining color photography of the Oil Slick off Santa Barbara, California. R&D recommended the Delta camera, with a mixed 3404/SO121 load, to provide both Black and White and Color imagery. The mission was gradually laid on, with a firm go-ahead by about 2100 local.

2. Mission Summary:

- a. Take off - 1700Z (0900 PST) 8 Feb
- b. Initial Photography - 1803Z (1003 PST) 8 Feb
- c. Final Photography - 2149Z (1349 PST) 8 Feb
- d. Landing - 2230Z (1430 PST) 8 Feb
- e. Processed product delivered to consumer (ondock at EK, Rochester) 0300Z, 10 Feb (2200 EST, 9 Feb)
- f. Time from Initial Request to Product Availability - 53 hours.
- g. Quality - Preliminary reports excellent. Friday evening weather forecasting had been as bad as CAT IV, although, in fact, weather was excellent.

3. General Comments on Operation:

- a. Status of color film at [redacted] was known for 25X1A Delta camera, as inquiry had been made a few days earlier (based on another potential requirement).
- b. Considerable difficulty was experienced in determining exposure for the SO-121 color film. This material is subject to aging; in addition EK has been changing processing to improve the product. The appropriate filter combination and exposure index require frequent

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IDEA-0051-69

Page 2

25X1A

up-dating. It was necessary to call [redacted]
EK/Rochester, to up-date our information.
Considerable time was lost in trying to locate
[redacted] or other knowledgeable EK personnel.

25X1A

- c. Discussions with [redacted] on slit/mode programming revealed that current [redacted] planning factors may be different from those contained in Itek manual (this may be another case like the difference in the O program between exposures for the Western U.S. and Viet-Nam). 25X1A
- d. Stabilization time is obviously not well recognized. Initially, only 30 - 45 minutes was allowed from take-off to photography (T/O was scheduled for 0930 local, photography at 1000 or 1015. Vic was aware of need for longer times, but had not communicated to planners. 25X1A
- e. As the weather forecasting was calling for deteriorating weather, it would have been desirable to have initiated photography at lower solar angles, particularly as ample film was available to carry through. While, in retrospect, this was not necessary, it would have provided some protection in case the weather did close in. 25X1A
- f. The manual procedure for slit selection is somewhat ambiguous. Further, [redacted] noted that the increments for available slits are rather large for, particularly color work. We lucked-out in this flight. 25X1A

4. Actions:

- a. Obtain up-dated summary of stabilization requirements on all cameras (TWX being sent). 25X1A
- b. Review status of exposure data on color film; establish plan with EK for providing regular up-dating (or expiration notice) of color film planning factors (EV curves and filter combinations) - Telecon [redacted] on [redacted] 25X1A

~~SECRET~~

IDEA-0051-69
Page 3

this subject 10 Feb. Assure follow through.

c. Assure that appropriate filters are available at operating locations, along with the film.

151
[Redacted]
ASSISTANT FOR TECHNOLOGY
DEPUTY FOR
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

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